



April 25, 2019
Volume 110 Issue 4

MAY

The Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF BEARDSTOWN, IL

Pastor Scott Egbers
217-323-1770

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 301 West Fourth Street, Beardstown, IL 62618

He is Risen...INDEED!

by Pastor Scott Egbers

Easter Sunday was a glorious celebration of Jesus being raised from the dead. We had an early service that began in the dark with lighted candles and then moved into the light, marking how Jesus went from the dark tomb into the light of life. We had a late service with a procession. We had music and handchimes and drums. We had banners and lilies and we even had breakfast. It was a grand Sunday of praise for Jesus' victory over death.

Now we are past Easter and it is very easy to simply leave that good news in the past. One of the challenges of the gospel is to see it at work not only in worship on Sunday morning, but everywhere in life. Here is a story by John Updike:

"Clint Tidwell is the pastor of a church in a small Southern town, and one of his blessings -- and one of his curses -- is that the 80-year-old owner and still-active editor of the local newspaper is a member of his congregation. The blessing part is that this old journalist believes Tidwell to be one of the finest preachers around, and, wishing the whole town to benefit from this homiletical wisdom, he publishes a summary of Tidwell's Sunday sermon every Monday

- **Confirmation Sunday** pg. 2
- **Seeds of Hope Worship** pg. 2
- **Prayer List** pg. 5



See **RISEN** Continued on Page 6



Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday May 5th Marlee Brown, Andy Tracy, and Micah Wink will affirm their faith in Jesus Christ and be confirmed in the Holy Spirit. This confirmation marks a part of their transition into more responsible adult membership in the church.

The rite of confirmation will be during worship on May 5th. There will be a reception after worship for the entire congregation. The reception is an opportunity to greet the confirmands, to celebrate the work of the Spirit among us, and to fellowship with the congregation. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Gospel in the Park Community Choir

The Beardstown Main Street is presenting Gospel In the Park on May 19th. Several group will be performing, including musicians from First Lutheran Church.

The event will culminate with a gospel song sung by a community choir. All singers from the community are encouraged to be a part of this choir. Rehearsals are:

May 9th 7pm at First Lutheran Church
May 16th 7pm at First Lutheran Church

Seeds of Hope Cooperative Worship

All six ELCA congregations in Scott, Cass, and Morgan counties have officially joined the Seeds of Hope Cooperative. The purpose of the cooperative is to train lay people to be synodically authorized ministers who would provide worship leadership in congregations without full time pastors. The six congregations will work together being training sights and providing mentoring to the students.

There will be a joint worship on Sunday June 9th at 4pm at Green Pastures Bible Camp. This joint service will be the kick off for the Seeds of Hope Cooperative. Pastor Elise Rothfusz, who is an assistant to the bishop, will preach. There will be a meal and we are hoping to have a joint choir. There will be more details coming soon.



Mother Daughter Banquet

The annual Mother Daughter Banquet will be held Sunday, May 5th at 6:00pm. Please bring your own table service and dish to share, drinks will be provided.

First Communion

On Maundy Thursday several fifth graders received communion for the first time. Several weeks prior they had gone through instruction to prepare for communion. Those fifth graders who went through first communion instruction are: Liv Brown, Cami Coats, Mylee Tracy, and Trey Wilson.

Paschal Candle

In the sanctuary there is a big candle that we call the Christ Candle or Paschal Candle. There are many candles in our worship space, but this is the biggest candle and has a very specific

purpose. It is a symbol of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. It is first lit at Easter, at the sunrise service. It is the first light of the Easter celebration, a symbol that Jesus is the first light in our lives.

We also light it



for baptisms and funerals, because at baptism we are united to Jesus' resurrection and at a funeral we trust in the promise of that resurrection.

For most of the year, the Christ Candle stands unlit near the baptismal font, but for this season of Easter, we light it always and make it a focal point when we gather.

Former Pastor Donald Krueger

The Rev. Donald L. Krueger was the pastor of First Evangelical Lutheran Church from 1953 to 1961. Some members have recently received correspondence from Pastor Krueger. His address is:

22701 Lake Rd. 101B
Rocky River, OH 44116.

Boy Scouts

First Lutheran Church was asked by the Boy Scouts of America, if we would charter a Cub Scout



pack. It has been several years since there was any Boy Scout Troop in Beardstown. After looking into it, we have agreed to charter a pack. The pack will mostly operate on its own. The congregation is responsible for giving them a place to meet and approving the adult leaders.

The Boy Scout Pack is just now getting organized. Hopefully this will be a way that we as a congregation can serve our community and a way that we can develop youth in our congregation.

Conference Assembly

The Northwest Conference of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA met on March 24th, 2019 at Christ Lutheran Church in Quincy. The focus of the assembly was a festival worship service that included musicians from several congregations. It was a joyous worship. The sanctuary was almost full, the singing was glorious, and Bishop Roth preached a powerful sermon about God doing new things in the church.

The only major decision that the assembly made was to use conference money to pay for the conference assembly meal from now on.

The conference pastors are already making plans for next year's assembly.



Bishop S. John Roth speaks at the Conference Assembly at Christ Lutheran in Quincy, IL

FINANCE

MARCH 2019 PARISH STATISTICS WORSHIP SUMMARY

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	
		GENERAL FUND	BENEVOLENCE
March 3	63	\$ 1,290.25	\$ 191.75
March 6	68	\$ 1,381.35	\$ 217.65
March 10	98	\$ 3,019.95	\$ 469.05
March 13	71	\$ 331.55	\$ 45.45
March 17	80	\$ 1,541.70	\$ 245.30
March 20	66	\$ 291.20	\$ 40.80
March 24	90	\$ 1,506.45	\$ 214.55
March 27	54	\$ 1,299.25	\$ 195.75
March 31	114	\$ 1,685.15	\$ 247.85
ONLINE OFFERINGS		\$ 692.75	\$ 122.25
DIRECT DEPOSIT		\$ 255.00	\$ 45.00

Special Offerings for March

Children's Lenten Project	\$	9.00
Children's Sunday School	\$	7.00
Adult Sunday School	\$	59.00
Building Fund	\$	285.00
Initial Offering	\$	3.00
Inn Place for Babies	\$	125.00
Memorials	\$	390.00
Building Use	\$	250.00
Rood Fund Contributions	\$	255.00
Lenten Meals	\$	595.00

Sunday School Attendance

Date	Students	Adult Class	Staff	Total
Mar 3	15	1	8	24
Mar 10	19	2	7	28
Mar 17	14	4	5	23
Mar 24	17	2	6	25
Mar 31	26	4	7	37

Total Rood Fund Deficit as March 31, 2019: -28,913.66

Deficit for March 2019: -973.71

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR WEEKLY PRAYERS

Those who are facing long term illness or for whom we offer our weekly prayer support

Jaime Bailey
Traci Bierhaus
Ryan Bonnet
Asher Brockhouse
Jean Clark
Herman Clements
Robert Coats
Annie Collins
Donnie Collins
Patsy Collison
Matthew Cooley
Edgar Cortes
Karen Cox
Brian Days
Roger Days
Imogene Drawve
Ron Dunnill
Sonna Egbers
Ulinda Eilers
Sandy Farwell
Ian Fishel
Tom Flowers

Martha Phelps
Nancy Gillette
Roger Hale
Sue Hale
Tari Hale
Linda Hanold
Wendell Harbin
Ron Hoenes
Karla Jaeke-Skoien
Nichole Jarrett
Cole Johnson
Sue Kindred
Jared Klein
Betty Loughary
Chris Lawrence
Don Looker
Jessica Looker
Barb Lovekamp
Diana Cooper Lowe
Jane Malcomson
Deby Morris
Bill Petersen

Marilyn Petersen
Velma Phillips
Joe Reische
Vickie Ring
Peg Rink
Bill Rous
Caitlyn Rous
Sherry Rous
Carla Savage
Natalie Seaman
Carol Shutts
Haley Summers
Anthony Swanson
Tom Taylor
Lora Ward
Rosemary White
Don Williams
Delanie Young
Madison Young
Phyllis (DeWitt) Young
Martha Zimmerman

Those whose mobility is limited and whom we remember in prayer as a part of our community of worship:

In Nursing Homes: (Heritage South): Robb Cooper, Peg Rink **At Evergreen Place:** **At Home:**

In the Military: Joshua Anderson, Nick Briney, Christopher Cape, Brian Collison, Levi Collison, Marcus Collison, Marcus Couch, Tyson Crosby, Jeremy Dingman, Jonathan Dingman, Johnathan Fishel, Audrey Gibson, Isaac Goodrich, Chad Hale, Jonathan Hall, Jacob Hollis, Jeremy Holman, Michael Hood, Brent Krumboltz, Jordan Kunkel, Nic Long, Andrew Malcomson, Ben McCoy, B. J. Raney, Erlin Rockwell, Doug Ross, Katy Stinson, Matt Stinson, Jakob Stover, Brett Thomas, and Quentin Thompson.

MAY LECTIONARY READINGS

Sun. May 5th – 3rd Sunday in Easter

Acts 9:1-6[7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelations 5:11-14
John 21:1-9

Sun. May 12th – 4th Sunday in Easter

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelations 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Sun. May 19th – 5th Sunday in Easter

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelations 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Sun. May 26th – 6th Sunday in Easter

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29

morning in the paper. The curse part is that this newspaperman, though well meaning, is a bit on the dotty and eccentric side, and Tidwell is often astonished to read the synopses of his sermons. The man owns the newspaper; nobody dares edit his columns, and the difference between what Tidwell thought he said and what the editor actually heard is often a source of profound amazement and embarrassment to Tidwell.

Tidwell's deepest amazement and embarrassment, however, came not when the newspaper editor misunderstood the Sunday sermon but, to the contrary, when he understood it all too sharply and clearly. It was early on the Monday morning after Easter, and Tidwell, in his bathrobe and slippers, was padding out the carport door to retrieve the Monday newspaper. The paper was lying at the end of the driveway, and, as Tidwell approached, he could see that the morning headline was in "second coming" sized type. What could it be? he wondered. Had war broken out somewhere? Had the local bank failed over the weekend? Had a cure for cancer been discovered? As he drew close enough to focus on the headline, he was startled to read the words, "Tidwell Claims Jesus Christ Rose From The Dead."

A red flush crept up Tidwell's neck. Yes, of course, he had claimed in yesterday's sermon that Christ rose from the dead, but golly, was that headline news? What would the neighbors think? I mean, you're supposed to say that on Easter, aren't you, that Christ rose from the dead, but that's not like saying that some person who died last week had risen from the grave, is it? Suddenly, as he looked at the screaming headline, what had been a routine Easter sermon had Tidwell feeling rather foolish.

Indeed, it is foolish -- the foolishness of the gospel. Those who gather on this Easter Day to sing and say that "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" do so not because we have proved anything philosophically, discerned some mystical key to the Scripture, or found some unassailable piece of historical evidence. We believe in the resurrection because the beloved disciple, the forerunner of all Easter faith, believed and passed the word along all the way into the

present, prompting frail folks, like Tidwell and like us, to say what we believe: "I believe in Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell, and -- dare we believe it? Dare we wager everything on it? -- rose again on the third day." John Updike, *A Month Of Sundays* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1975), pp. 197-198.

In the next several weeks, our readings from the Bible will focus on what happens to Jesus' disciples after he was raised from the dead. His resurrection changed their lives forever. I pray that we would see that it has changed our lives too.



Birth: Loren Ann Skinner

On Easter Sunday there was a flower at the baptismal font in honor of the birth of Loren Ann Skinner, born on March 7, 2019, daughter of Allison and Nic Skinner. She weighed 6 lbs 4.5 oz and was 19 ½ inches long. We thank God for her and pray for her and her family.



The Joyful Noise Children's Choir

May 2019 CELEBRATIONS



May Birthdays:

May 4 Emily Looker
May 6 Tanna Coats, Addilyn Tracy
May 7 Olivia Dour, Sue Hale, Brock Krumboltz,
Kerry Loughary, Sharon Shaeffer
May 9 Natalie Stambaugh
May 10 Carys Lacy, Bernice Massie,
May 12 Rhonda Brockman
May 14 Erin Reller, Rosemary Swan
May 16 Grady Estes, Eric Harbin, Abigal Knouse,
Cristi Paul, Kaleb Schroll, Dale Vancil
May 17 Drew Patrick, Debra Smith
May 18 Wade Swan
May 20 Jude Dawson, Dorothy Lamb
May 21 Caitlin McIntyre, Marilyn Peterson
May 23 Kyle Conway, Heath Stocker
May 24 Alvin Dusenbery II, Austin LaMaster
May 26 Sara Whitis

May Birthdays:

May 27 Megan Stocker
May 28 Scott Raney, Keith Reller
May 29 Heather Fritz, Sage Surratt, Ben Wedeking
May 30 Kristen Collison, Derek Menge
May 31 Joseph Miller

May Baptismal Anniversaries:

Fischer Alloway
William Briney
Eli Brockschmidt
Claire Carmean
Whitney Clements
Leah Collison
Eli Dawson
Romeo Malaga
Brantlee Malcomson
Nathan Stambaugh

May Wedding Anniversaries:

May 04 Tom & Terri Cooper
May 16 Lary & Sue Jamison
May 17 Dylan & Denise Pate
May 18 Leo & Beverly Carlock
May 20 Wendell & Janette Flowers
May 26 Kirk & Susan Rawlins
May 27 Don & Linda Looker

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
301 West Fourth Street
Beardstown, IL 62618
E-mail: frstluth@casscomm.com
Website: www.firstlutheranbeardstown.org

Address Service Requested

Presorted Standard
Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 100
Beardstown, IL 62618



9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Home Phone Numbers

Pastor Scott Egbers 323-2850
Worship Participant Coordinator:
Janet Fair 323-5288

The next newsletter deadline is
Friday, May 17th

Inside this Issue:

Confirmation Sunday.....pg 2
Join Worship.....pg. 2
Finances.....pg 4
Prayer List.....pg 5
Calendar.....(Insert)
Worship Participants.....(Insert)



Don't see your celebration here? Contact the church office with the dates of any birthdays and/or anniversaries not included in this listing and they will be included next year.

“4th Street Lutheran”